

I claim:

1. An elongated tubular spacer core for use in an insulated glass assembly comprising a plurality of bending zones between first and second ends of the core, each bending zone comprising a plurality of circumferential ribs, each rib having sides of unequal length, the ribs being reentrant and overlapping when the core is bent along a longitudinal axis of the core.
2. The core of claim 1 wherein the core is defined by two pairs of opposing parallel walls and a radiused corner between each pair of adjacent walls.
3. The core of claim 1 or 2 wherein the walls form a closed hollow tube.
4. The core of claim 1, 2, or 3 further comprising one or more composite elements from the group of elements consisting of a desiccant and a vapor barrier.
5. The core of claim 4 wherein the desiccant is provided within the interior of the hollow core.
6. The core of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 defines an elongated hollow tube of sufficient length to provide spacer cores for a plurality of insulated glass assemblies.
7. The core of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 wherein the ribs are identical and extend around the entire perimeter defined by the core.
8. The core of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 wherein the ribs are foldable along a first side of the core and the ribs are extendable along a second opposite side of the core.
9. The core of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 defining an elongated strand reversibly coiled about a rotatable spool.
10. An elongated tubular spacer for use in an insulated glass assembly comprising: an elongated tubular core defining a plurality of ribs extending about the periphery of the tubular core, each rib having sides of unequal length, the ribs folding and overlapping when the core is bent along a longitudinal axis of the core;
a desiccant provided within the interior of the tubular core; and
a vapor barrier provided along the length of the tubular core.

11. An insulated glass assembly comprising:

- 5 (a) an elongated tubular spacer comprising an elongated tubular core defining a plurality of ribs extending about the periphery of the tubular core, each rib having sides of unequal length, the ribs folding and overlapping when the core is bent along a longitudinal axis of the core; and
- a desiccant provided within the interior of the tubular core;
- (b) a vapor barrier provided along the length of the tubular core;
- (c) a pair of opposing glass plates;
- 10 (d) an adhesive applied to secure the spacer between the pair of opposing glass plates.